

**To:** Stanislaus, Mathy[Stanislaus.Mathy@epa.gov]; McGrath, Shaun[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov]; Guria, Peter[Guria.Peter@epa.gov]; Ruhl, Christopher[Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov]; Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**From:** Grantham, Nancy  
**Sent:** Fri 9/4/2015 8:04:43 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: FYI: Environmental activist Erin Brockovich will visit the Navajo Nation

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Harrison, Melissa" <Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov>  
**Date:** September 4, 2015 at 1:55:58 PM MDT  
**To:** "Grantham, Nancy" <Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov>, "Reynolds, Thomas" <Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov>, "Gray, David" <gray.david@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** **FYI: Environmental activist Erin Brockovich will visit the Navajo Nation**

[http://www.daily-times.com/four\\_corners-news/ci\\_28758405/environmental-activist-erin-brockovich-will-visit-navajo-nation](http://www.daily-times.com/four_corners-news/ci_28758405/environmental-activist-erin-brockovich-will-visit-navajo-nation)

By Noel Lyn Smith

FARMINGTON — Environmental activist and consumer advocate Erin Brockovich will visit the Navajo Nation next week.

On Tuesday, Brockovich and Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye will tour areas impacted by the Gold King Mine spill, according to a press release from the president's office.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has accepted responsibility for the spill, which released more than three million gallons of toxic wastewater last month. The wastewater plume flowed into a tributary of the Animas River and then into the San Juan River, which runs through the northern portion of the Navajo Nation.

Since the spill, the tribe has restricted using San Juan River water for irrigation, livestock and recreational purposes.

"I am deeply concerned with the actions of the U.S. EPA and I stand by the Navajo Nation. Over 20 million gallons of contaminated water have poured out and are continuing to pour out from the Gold King Mine. This needs to stop, and the U.S. government needs to clean up the mess they caused," Brockovich said in the release.

Begaye said in the release that the spill has devastated the tribe's culture and economy, and help is needed to address the crisis.

The land surrounding the San Juan River is recognized for its agriculture, with many farms growing corn, melon, squash and alfalfa.

"We appreciate Ms. Brockovich's willingness to visit our nation to witness the damage first hand and help raise awareness about the plight of our people," Begaye said.

Brockovich is best known for helping residents of Hinkley, Calif., file a class action lawsuit against Pacific Gas and Electric Co. for contaminating the town's groundwater. The case resulted in a multi-million dollar settlement for residents in 1996.

Her work on that case was told in the 2000 movie, "Erin Brockovich," starring Julia Roberts.

Additional details about Brockovich's visit will be released later, the release states.

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